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"Conditions In West Are the Best In Years"

New York Interview By President "W. C. Brown of the New York Central Railroad.

That conditions in the west are better than they have been in years; that the crops, in spite of the drought, are going to show excellent returns for the farmers, and that there is absolutely nothing to warrant the pessimism over the country's welfare that has developed of late in the east, are some of the conclusions reached by President W. C. Brown of the New York Central railroad, after ten days of personal observation in Iowa, Minnesota, the two Dakotas, Nebraska and Kansas.

Mr. Brown returns to town full of enthusiasm over all he has seen. He finds the west like a garden, the people brimful of hope for a prosperous future, and special emphasis on this point is made by Mr. Brown, almost without exception, agreed that in view of the large increase in wages and costs of materials, the railroads are entitled to a reasonable increase in freight rates.

Mr. Brown said: "I found the entire West absolutely astounded at the pessimism here," said Mr. Brown. "They cannot understand what we mean by talking hard times. The crops there are good and there is

plenty of money everywhere. I am personally a stockholder in seven banks in Iowa, Illinois and Missouri, and every one of them is in splendid condition. The farmers are optimistic and all business men, from the smallest merchants up, are full of hope for the future. Business is good with them now and they see no reason why it should not continue.

"On my trip I made personal observations from the Missouri river to New York and in addition had reliable men of good judgment report on other sections. The country looks like a garden all the way.

"The drought has been a very serious thing for individual farmers and localities, but I believe the loss will be more than made up by the checking of the wild speculation in agricultural land, and the checking of the heavy flow of emigration from the United States to the Canadian northwest."

Miss Pauline Dorman, of the post-office force, has returned from her vacation in California which included a trip to Catalina Island and to San Diego.

\$3.50 Recipe Cures Weak Men—FREE

Send Name and Address Today—You Can Have It Free and Be Strong and Vigorous.

I have in my possession a prescription for nervous debility, lack of vigor, weakened manhood, failing memory and lame back, brought on by excessive, unnatural drains, of the follies of youth, that has cured so many worn and nervous men right in their own homes—without any additional help or medicine—that I think every man who wishes to regain his manly power and virility, quickly and quietly, should have a copy. So I have determined to send a copy of the prescription free of charge, in a plain, ordinary sealed envelope to any man who will write me for it.

This prescription comes from a physician who has made a special study of men and is a convinced it is the surest and most effective combination for the cure of deficient manhood and vigor failure ever put together.

I think I owe it to my fellow man to send them a copy in confidence so that any man anywhere who is weak and discouraged with repeated failures may stop dragging himself with harmful patent medicines, secure what I believe is the quickest acting restorative, speedily ever devised, and so cure himself at home quietly and quickly. Just drop me a line like this: DR. A. E. Robinson, 4049 Luck Building, Detroit, Mich. and I will send you a copy of this splendid recipe in a plain ordinary envelope free of charge. A great many doctors would charge \$3.00 to \$5.00 for merely writing out a prescription like this—but I send it entirely free.

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ALIMONY CAUSE OF MANY DIVORCES

New York, Aug. 3.—Mrs. Gabrielle S. Mulliner, a prominent woman lawyer, of New York, recently declared that much of the divorce evil would undoubtedly be eliminated if alimony were not granted at all by any courts. "If men



would prepare a law which will make adequate provision for a wife while she is a wife, I will advocate a law to cut off alimony entirely and I believe the result will be the lessening of divorce," she concluded.

SOLOMONVILLE PERSONAL NEWS.

Solomonville, Ark., Aug. 3.—Ed Gillespie has returned from Wilcox, Ariz. J. H. Shiversburg of Beaver Dam, Ky., has arrived at Solomonville to visit G. A. Rhoades.

W. A. Gillespie and daughter, Miss Inez, have gone to Mineral Wells, Tex. Mr. Ferguson, who has purchased the Star drug store, has moved his family to town from Thatcher.

Mrs. Dore H. Cloridge, who has been ill for a week past, is reported much better.

E. E. Campbell, Mrs. R. F. Campbell and Mrs. I. A. Sheard are registered at Hotel Virginia, Long Beach, Cal.

A Story Of Graustark

Truxton King

By George Barr McCutcheon

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"I've had the busiest month of my life here. I'll never again say that the world is a dull place. I shudder when I think of what might have happened to you, my princess sweetheart, if I hadn't come to Edelweiss. I would not have found you." Feeling her trembling in his arms, he went on with whimsical good humor: "You would have been eaten up by the ogre long before this, or perhaps you would have succeeded in becoming a countess."

"You will be Mrs. King."

"As it is, I shall be a baroness."

"In Graustark, but not in New York. That reminds me. You'll be more than a baroness—more than a princess. You will be a queen. Don't you catch the point? You will be Mrs. King."

The Grand Duke Paulus was distinctly annoyed. He had traveled many miles, endured quite a number of hardships, and all to no purpose. When dawn came his emissaries returned from the city with the lamentable information that the government had righted itself, that Marlan's sensational revolution was at an end and that the regents would be highly honored if his excellency could overlook the distressingly chaotic conditions at court and condescend to pay the castle a visit.

The grand duke resolved that he would visit the castle in a very informal way, extend his congratulations and offer his services, which he knew would be declined with thanks. Incidentally he would mention the bond issue; also he would find the opportunity to suggest to the ministry that his government still was willing to make large grants and stupendous promises if any sort of arrangement could be made by which the system might be operated in conjunction with branch lines of the imperial roads.

And so it was that at midday he rode in pomp and splendor through the city gates, attended by his staff and a rather overpowering bodyguard.

The grand duke, with all the arrogance of a real personage, was late. It was not for him to consider the conditions that distressed the court of Graustark—not at all. He was a grand duke and he would take his own time in paying his respects. When he finally presented himself at the castle doors a sleepy group of attendants actually yawned in his presence.

No one had slept during the night just passed. Excitement and the suffering of others had denied slumber to one and all, even to those who had not slept for many days and nights. Now the reaction was upon them. Relaxation had succeeded tension.

When the grand duke entered the great, somber throne room he was confronted by a punctiliously polite assemblage, but every eyelid was as heavy as lead and as prone to sink.

The prince sat far back in the great chair of his ancestors, his sturdy legs sticking straight out in front of him. The grand duke advanced between the respectful lines and knelt at the foot of the throne.

"Arise, your highness," piped Bobby.

With a quick glance at Count Halfont. It was a faint, faraway voice that uttered the gracious command. "Graustark welcomes the Grand Duke Paulus. It is my pleasure to—"

A helpless look came into his eyes. He looked everywhere for support. The grand duke saw that he had forgotten the rehearsed speech and smiled benignly as he stepped forward and kissed the hand that had been extended somewhat uncertainly.

"My most respectful homage to your majesty. The felicitations of my emperor and the warmest protestations of friendship from his people."

With this as a prologue he engaged himself in the ever pleasurable task of delivering a long congratulatory address. After five minutes of high sounding platitudes he again turned to the prince. It was then that he received his first shock.

Prince Robin was sound asleep. His head was slipping sideways along the satiny back of the big chair, and his chin was very low in the laces at his neck. The grand duke coughed emphatically, cleared his throat and grew very red in the face.

The court of Graustark was distinctly dismayed.

"His majesty appears to have—ahem—gone to sleep," remarked the grand duke tartly, interrupting himself to address the prime minister.

"He is very tired, your excellency," said Count Halfont, very much flustered. "Pray consider what he has been through during the night."

"Ah, my dear count, do not apologize for him. I quite understand. Ahem! Ahem!" Still, he was very red in the face.

"I will awaken him, your excellency," said the prime minister, edging toward the throne.

"Not at all, sir!" protested the visitor. "Permit him to have his sleep out, sir. I will not have him disturbed. Who am I that I should defeat the claims of nature? It is my pleasure to wait until his majesty's nap is over. Then he may dismiss us, but not until we have cried 'Long live the prince!'"

For awhile they stood in awkward silence, this notable gathering of men and women. Then the prime minister in hushed tones suggested that it would be eminently proper under the circumstances for all present to be seated. He was under the impression that his serene highness would sleep long and soundly.

Stiff backed and uncomfortable, the court sat and waited. No one pretended to conceal the blissful yawns that would not be denied. A drowsy, ineffably languid feeling took possession of the entire assemblage.

The prime minister sat at the foot of the throne and nodded in spite of himself. John Tullis, far back near the wall, had his head on his hand, bravely fighting off the persistent demon. Prince Danton of Dawsbergen was sound asleep.

The grand duke was wide awake. He saw it all and was equal to the occasion. After all, he was a kindly old gentleman and, once his moment of mortification was over, he was not

above charity.

Bobby's poor little head had slipped over to a most uncomfortable position against the arm of the chair. Putting his finger to lips, the grand duke tipped carefully up to the throne. With very gentle hands he lifted Bobby's head and, infinitely tender, stuffed a throne cushion behind the curly head. A splendid smile in his eyes, he tipped back to his chair.

As he passed Count Halfont, who had risen, he whispered:

"Dear little man! I do not forget, my lord, that I was once a boy. God bless him!"

Then he sat down, conscious of a fine feeling of goodness, folded his arms across his expansive chest and allowed his beaming eyes to rest upon the sleeping boy far back in the chair of state. Incidentally he decided to delay a few days before taking up the bond question with the ministry. The grand duke was not an ordinary diplomat.

In one of the curtained windows, far removed from the throne, sat Truxton King and Loraine Tallis.

All about them people were watching the delicate little scene, smiling drowsily at the grand duke's tender comedy. No one was looking at the two in the curtained recess. Her hand was in his; her head sank slowly toward his inviting shoulder. Her heavy lids drooped lower and lower, refusing to obey the slender will that argued against complete surrender. At last her soft, regular breathing told him that she was asleep. Awaiting his opportunity, he tenderly kissed the soft brown hair, murmured a gentle word of love and settled his own head against the thick cushions.

Everywhere they dozed and nodded. The grand duke smiled and blinked his little eyes. He was very wide awake.

That is how he happened to see the prince move restlessly and half open his sleep bound eyes. The grand duke leaned forward with his hand to his ear and listened. He had seen the boy's lips move. From dreamland came Bobby's belated "Good night."

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